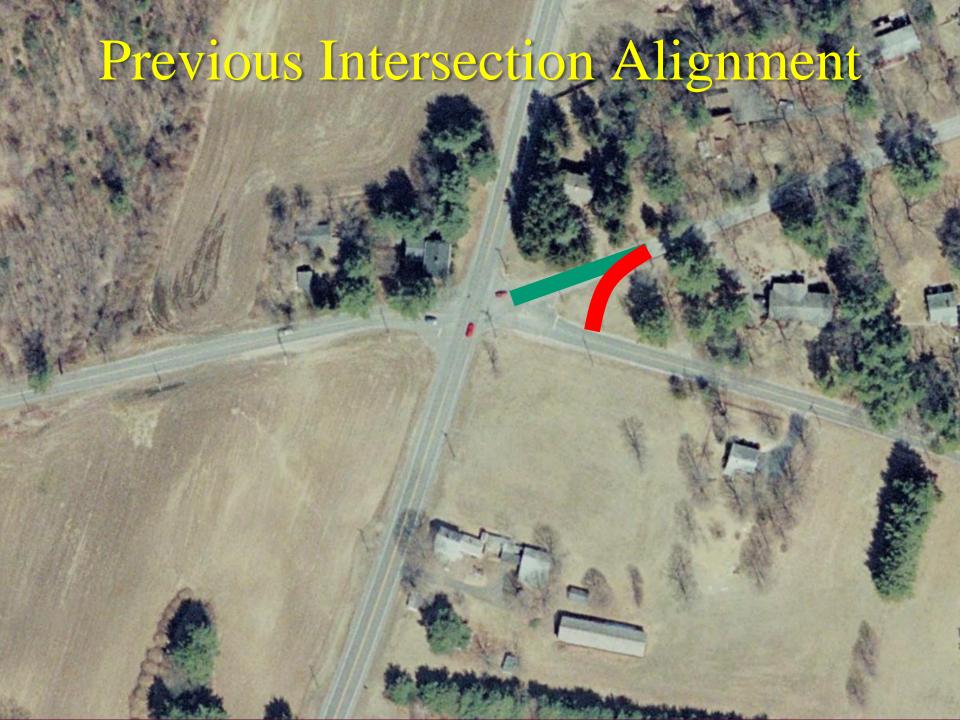




Background

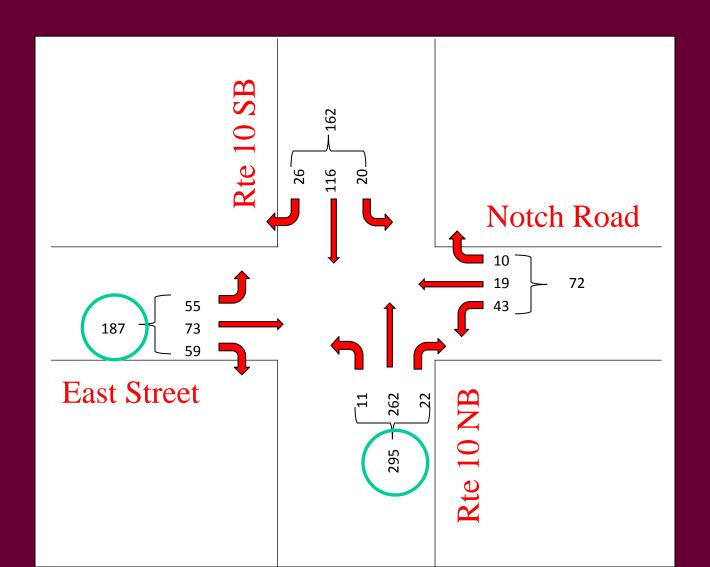
• 1995 - Town officials request traffic signal (before Quarry Road was realigned)



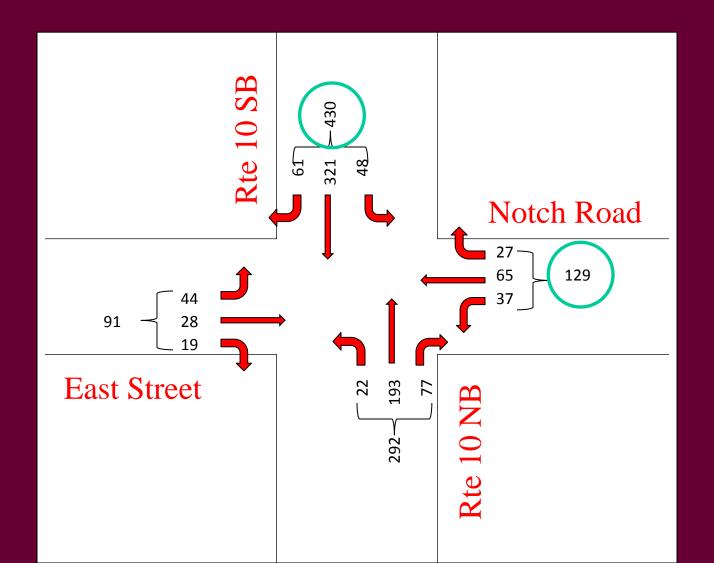
Background

- 1995 Town officials request traffic signal (before Quarry Road was realigned)
- 1995 CRCOG study does not recommend signal (did not meet volume warrants), recommends realigning Quarry Road
- 2010 Town realigns Quarry Road
- 2013-2015 Town and DOT discuss signalizing the intersection, volumes do not meet warrants. DOT proposes roundabout.

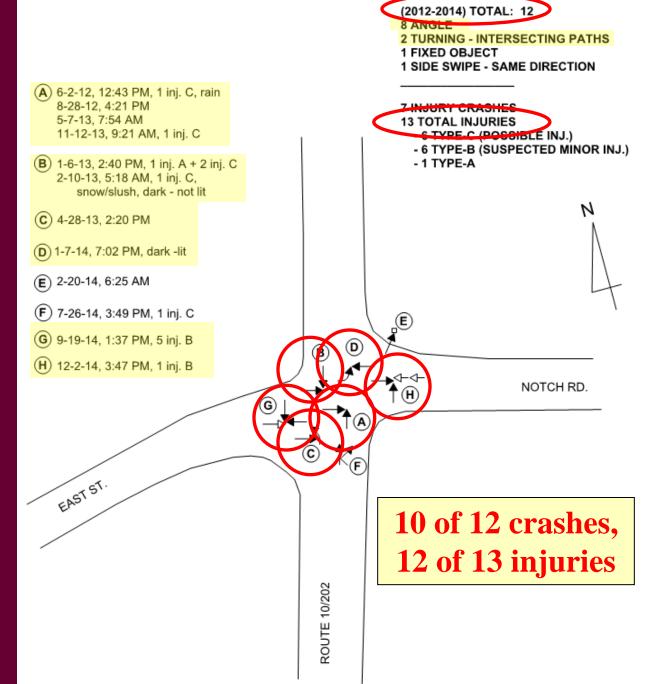
AM Peak Hour Volumes



PM Peak Hour Volumes



Crash History 2012 - 2014



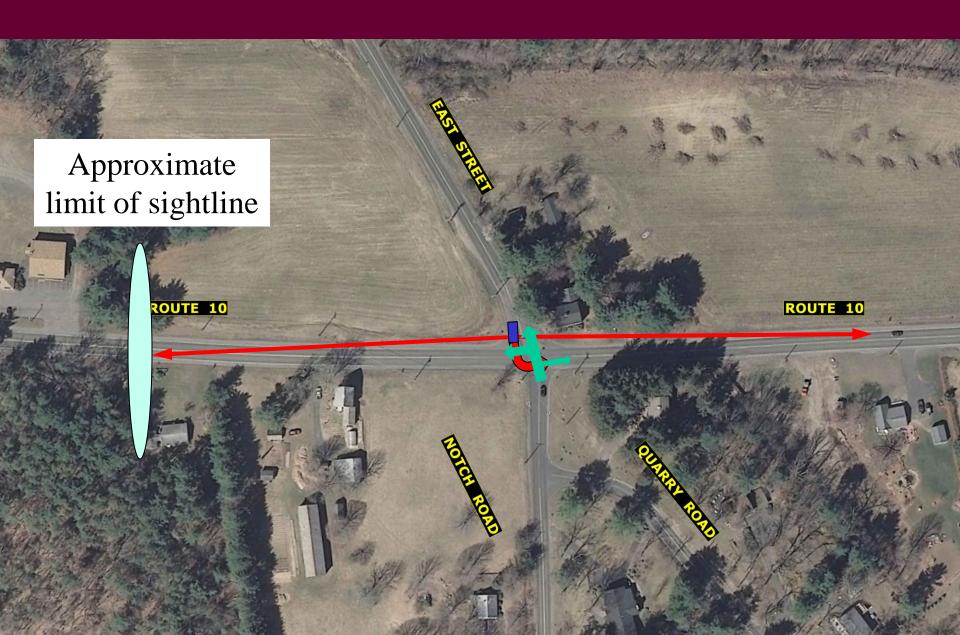
Reasons for Crashes?

- Speed limit 45 MPH, actual speeds reasonably close
- Sightlines limited by crest and house but "adequate" for speeds
- Volumes relatively low

Combination of Factors

- Traffic on Notch Road and East Street need a gap in both directions on Route 10 and opposing leg, all at the same time
- Enough traffic that gaps can be limited
- Restricted sight lines require drivers to constantly check for oncoming traffic
- A lot of information to process at one time
- Drivers tend to jump when they think there is a gap

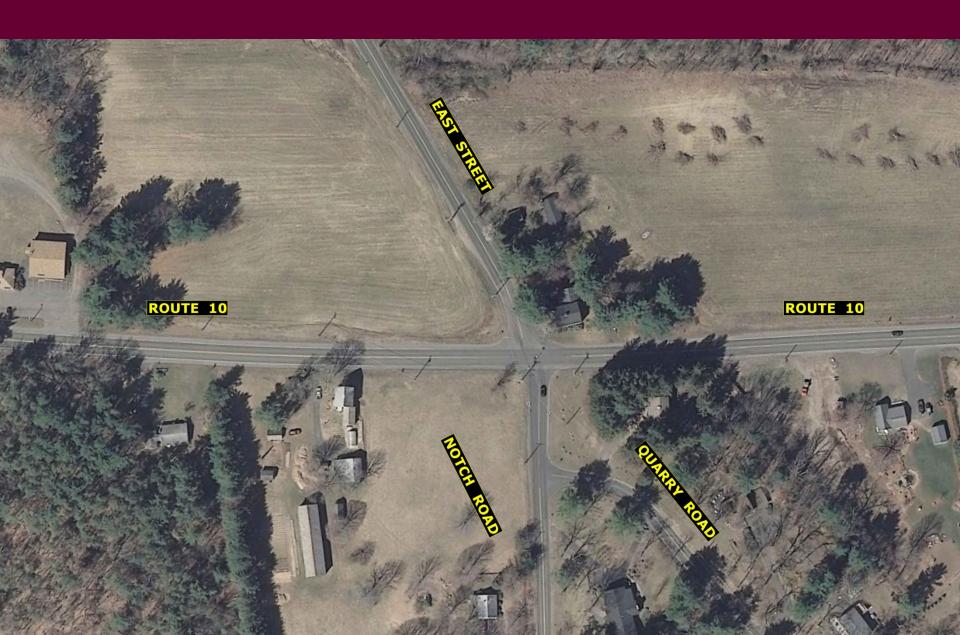
Current Intersection



Why not a Signal?

- Volume warrants not met
- Signal would result in more crashes:
 - High speed rear-ends on Route 10
 - Angle crashes
 - Head-on left turning crashes
- Would require additional lanes
- Would not address high speeds

Current Intersection



Conceptual Roundabout Plan

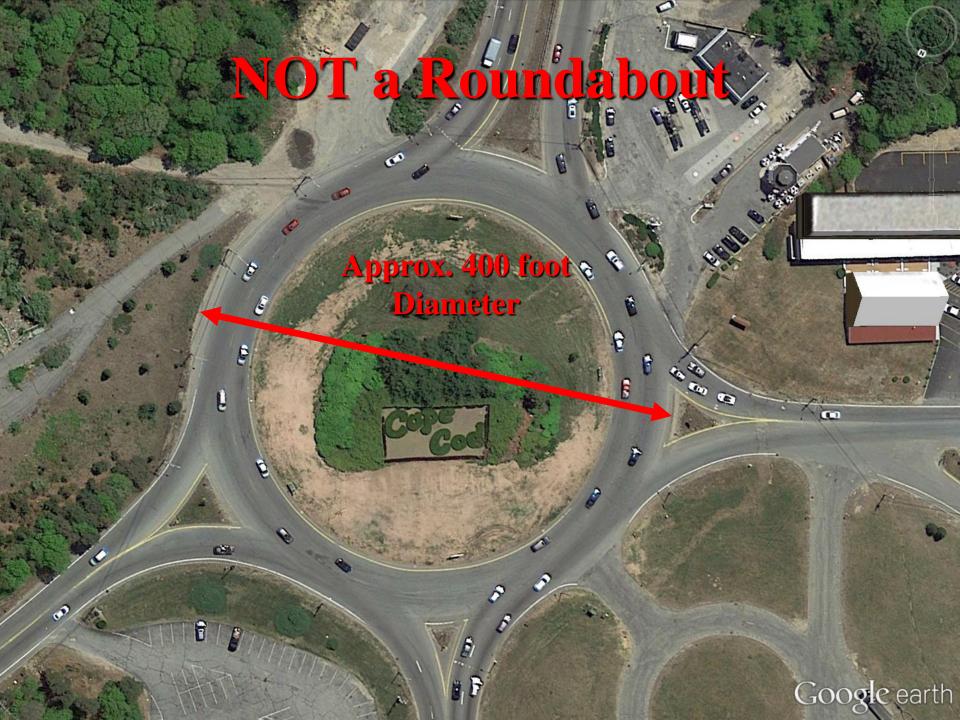


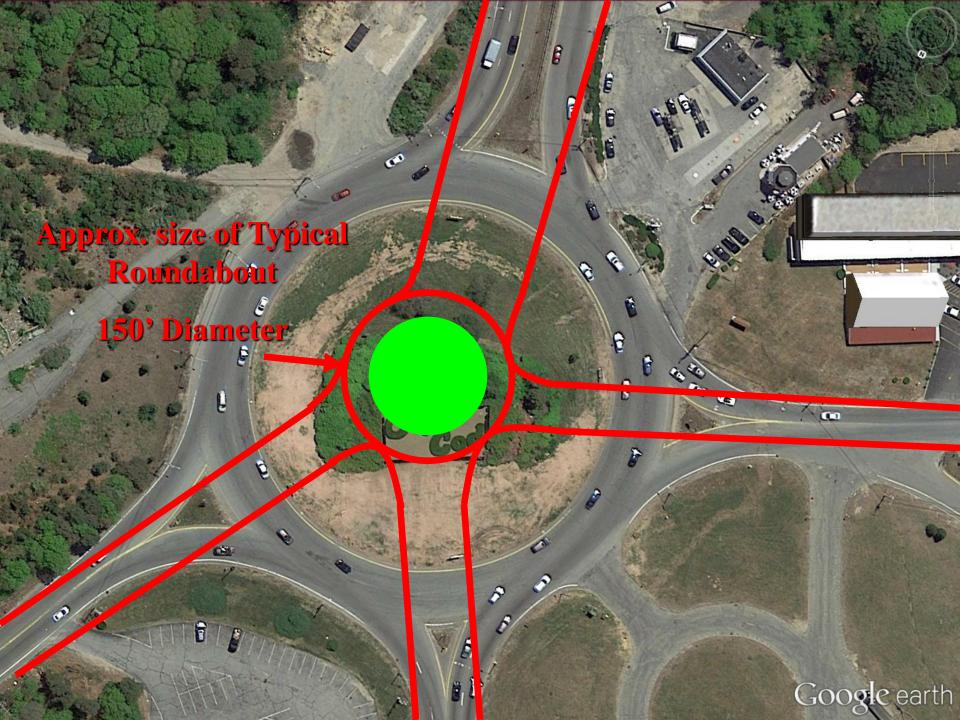
What is a Modern Roundabout?

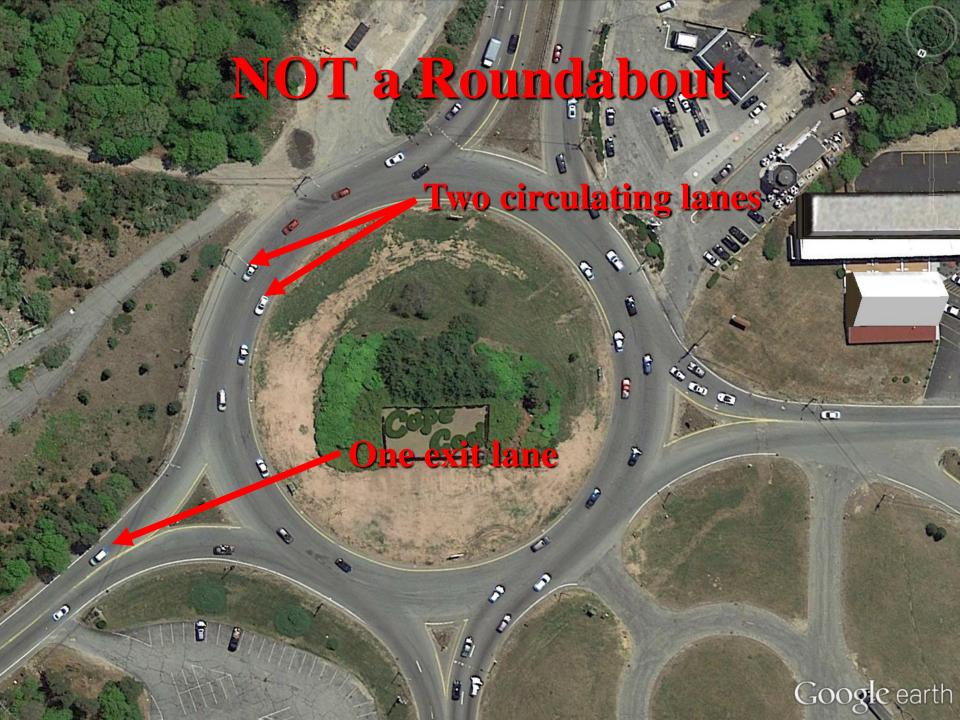
- Similarities to old "traffic circles", but with significant differences
- Used in Europe for many years, have become very popular in U.S. due to reductions in accidents and congestion
- Over 3,000 in U.S., including Colorado, Florida, Maryland, Vermont, many others
- Single lane vs. multi-lane

Roundabout vs. Traffic Circle

- Drivers yield on entry
- Much smaller circle (reduces speed, congestion and accidents)
- No weaving, no lane changing











Advantages of a roundabout

Compared to a signal, a roundabout will provide:

- Lower speeds
- Improved Safety
- Reduced Delays/Congestion/Pollution
- Less Pavement/Improved Aesthetics
- Approximately Same Construction Cost, Lower Maintenance Costs



Crash Reductions

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Report www.highwaysafety.org

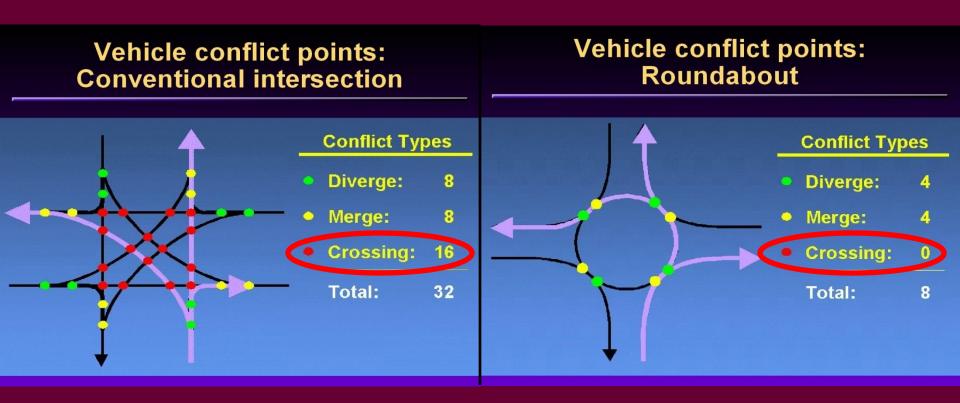
Compared 24 Roundabouts (single and multi-lane) in 8 states to signalized and all-way stop controlled intersections they replaced:

- Total crashes reduced by 39%
- Injury crashes reduced by 76%
- Fatal/Incapacitating crashes reduced by 90%
- Pedestrian crashes reduced by 30-40%

Reasons for Improved Safety

- Lower speeds (15-25 MPH)
- No left turns
- Fewer decisions to make/information to process
- Reduced number of conflict points

Reasons for Improved Safety



Crossing conflicts – highest chance for injury

Safety Benefits of Lower Speeds

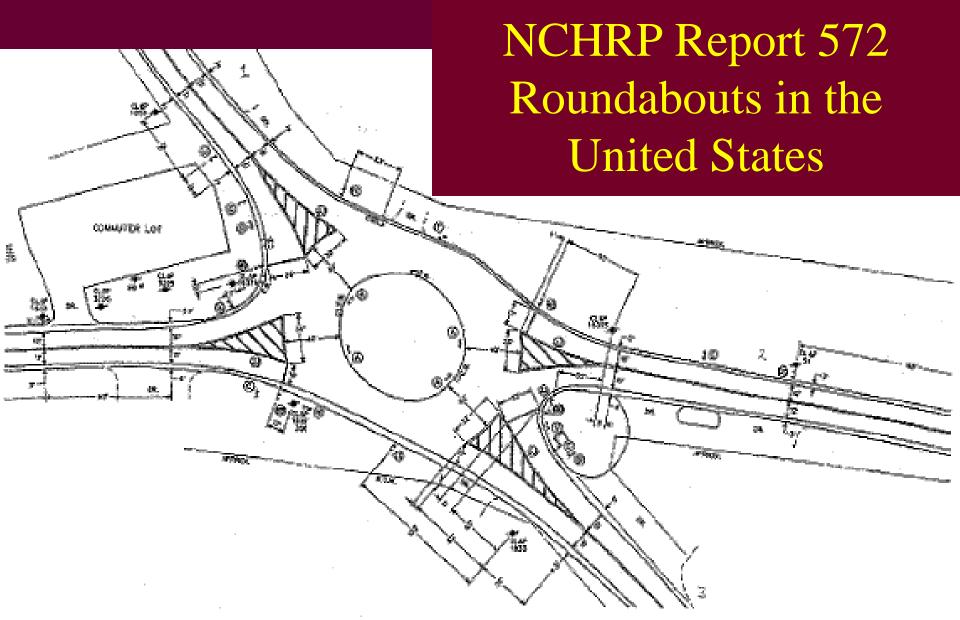


Figure 76. Example of a single-lane roundabout with poor deflection characteristics.

Killingworth Before



Killingworth After

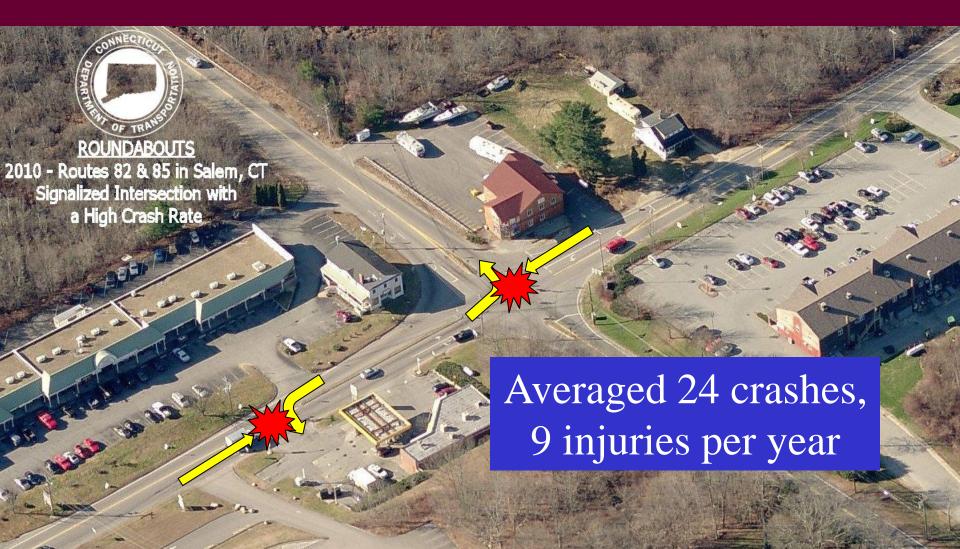


2013 National Roadway Safety Award for Killingworth

50% Reduction in crashes 78% Reduction in Injuries



Salem – Route 85 at Route 82 Previous Condition - Signalized



Congestion

• Extensive Backups

• Summer Weekends
Significant Delays
for Beach Traffic

Notorious Delays



Today – Modern Roundabout



BY TIM PADGETT

CARMEL, IND., IS DRIVING IN circles. Since 2001, the Indianapolis suburb has built 50 roundabouts, those circular alternatives to street intersections that have become a transit fixture in much of the rest of the world. Because roundabouts force cars to travel through a crossroads in a slower but more free-flowing manner-unlike traffic circles, roundabouts have no stop signals—in seven years, Carmel has seen a 78% drop in accidents involving injuries, not to mention a savings of some 24,000 gal. of gas per year

per roundabout because of less car idling. "As our population densities become more like Europe's," says Mayor Jim Brainard, who received a climate-protection award this year from the U.S. Conference of Mayors, "roundabouts will become more popular."

About 1,000 roundabouts have been built in 25 states, and research bears out the benefits to states like Kansas, where the new design has produced a 65% average drop in vehicular delays, according to a recent Kansas State University study. Most roundabouts are also more aesthetically pleasing and cost much less to

the need for any stop signals ... Roundabouts cut hydrocarbon emissions at intersections by as much as **42%** ... Ten roundabouts in Virginia save **200,000** gal. of gas a year (no more idling!) ... In Kansas, roundabouts have eased traffic delays by an average of **65%**

TIME September 15, 2008

Driving a Roundabout

- Entering traffic yields to traffic in roundabout
- All traffic goes right
- Yield to pedestrians



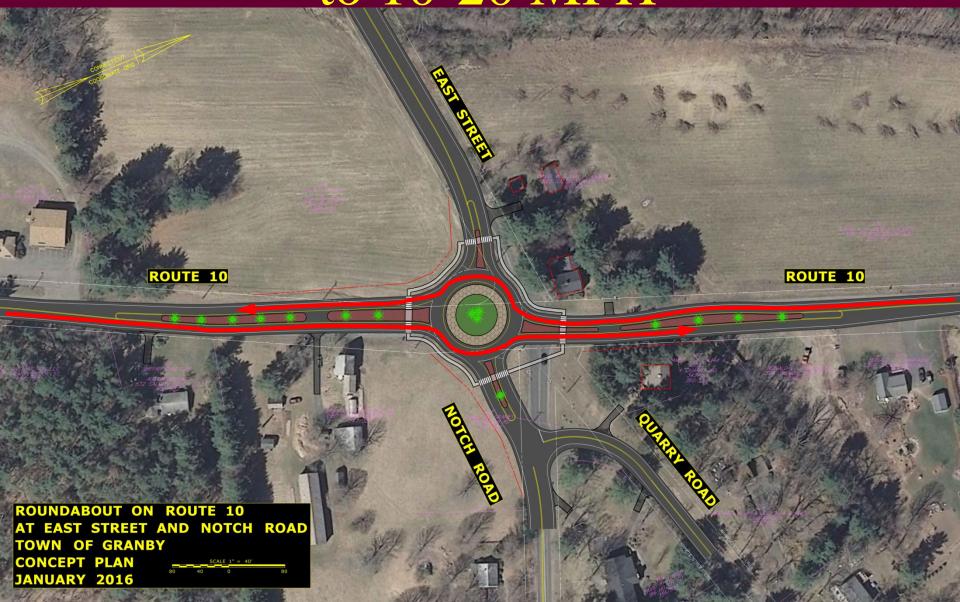
Roundabout Features



Truck using truck apron New London, CT



Deflection limits speeds to 10-20 MPH



Other Enhancements

- Decorative Lights
- Sidewalks
- Landscaping
- Gateway Treatments









Public Acceptance of Roundabouts

- Always controversial
- National study:
 - Before construction: 68% opposed
 - After construction: 73% in favor
- Connecticut experience: no formal study, but appears to be in line with national study

From:

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2012 3:37 PM

To: Norman, James H

Cc: mblanchette@ellington-ct.gov

Subject: Great Job to ALL -Project # 47-116

Just to pass this on, to you and your department, along with the Town of Ellington and all those involved,

The new Round About at the 5-corners Is "the greatest thing since sliced bread" as they would say. I've been traveling through there daily since 1968 and traffic has never flowed more smoothly as it does now.

The time and studies put into the project was well worth it. It works so slick. I have never seen a back-up since the day they put the barrels up during construction.

I'm sure we will see more of these in the future around the state even for four corner intersections.

The new Round About at the 5-corners Is "the greatest thing since sliced bread" as they would say. I've been traveling through there daily since 1968 and traffic has never flowed more smoothly as it does now.

It works so slick. I have never seen a back-up since the day they put the barrels up during construction.

Cost, Schedule

- Current estimate: \$ 3-4 million
- Funding source: 80% Federal, 20% State
- Schedule: <u>earliest</u> projected construction would be 2019, dependent on several factors
- Construction estimated to last one season (April-November), will be verified
- Expected that traffic would be maintained on existing roads – no detours

Questions?

